

VINITA DAILY CHIEFTAIN.

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BUSINESS TO BE SUSPENDED IN VINITA NEXT TUESDAY FOR PURPOSE OF RAISING BONUS TO BRING OSAGE & WESTERN RAILROAD HERE

AT ROUSING MEETING AT COMMERCIAL CLUB ROOMS FRIDAY NIGHT VINITA PEOPLE DECIDE TO ACCEPT PROPOSITION OF CLARENCE WALTERS

COMMITTEE CONVINCED ROAD WILL BE BUILT

CLUB ROOMS PACKED TO OVERFLOWING WITH VINITA'S EAGER TO GRASP AN ENTERPRISE FOR THE UPBUILDING OF THE CITY

EXPECT TO BEGIN WORK WITHIN 60 DAYS

Vice President Walters Had Ready Reply to all Questions--Most Enthusiastic Meeting Ever Held in Vinita--Thunder Their Demand That Vinita Leave no Stone Unturned to Get This Road--Action is the Cry in Vinita Until Next Tuesday Night.

What is undoubtedly the greatest and most enthusiastic booster meeting ever held in Vinita was that held at the Commercial Club rooms last night, when the citizens of Vinita decided to raise the bonus asked by the Osage Western railroad to build into this city. In order to raise this bonus the business men, present last night agreed to close their places of business at 10 o'clock a. m. on next Tuesday, and hold a big meeting at the Auditorium for the purpose of raising this money. A resolution was adopted asking the mayor to issue a proclamation asking the suspension of all business in Vinita so that all can attend that meeting.

Vice President Walters of the Osage & Western arrived in the city yesterday afternoon and met with the railroad committee, of the Commercial Club and convinced the committee that he meant business in regard to building the road. He stated to the committee that he had planned to begin actual construction within sixty days and expected to have the road completed, barring mishap, within six months. As evidence of his good faith in the matter he has proposed to advance the money to the committee for the purchase of the right-of-way through Vinita and Craig county, to be reimbursed when the road shall have been completed according to agreement. Thus he is not asking the people of Vinita to advance one cent until he has complied to the letter, with his part of the agreement.

The committee was impressed with Mr. Walters statement and when the meeting was called to order last night, Mr. Amos, on behalf of the committee, indorsed the proposition in glowing terms and introduced Mr. Walters, who told in his blunt concise manner, what his proposition was. He reiterated the statement made to the special committee, and when he had completed his brief talk, it was evident that there was not a man in all that assembly, which packed the Commercial Club room like sardines, and overflowed into the hall, but was visibly impressed with the fact that the Osage Western meant to build a road. In closing his address, Mr. Walters invited interrogation on his project, and those present freely asked questions on every phase of the proposition. Mr. Walters had a ready and satisfactory answer to each question.

Judge Gill made one of the most enthusiastic and enthusiasm arousing

speeches that has ever graced the chamber of the Commercial Club. He summed up in practical terms what the road meant to Vinita and after asking a few questions of Mr. Walters, expressed his conviction that the road would be built, and wound up by asserting his confidence in the ability of the citizenship of Vinita raise this bonus, and urging that the people "get busy" with the proposition. He said that he was ready and willing to pay his part toward the bonus.

There was never a meeting held in Vinita in which there was such unanimity of opinion as that last night, and that was shown by the great volume of "ayes" that went up when Seymour Riddle asked that all who wanted that the road in Vinita to answer "aye." That great assemblage thundered a reply that left no doubt as to the spirit of that crowd. Speech-making was freely indulged in. There was much good natured bantering mingling with the seriousness of some of the speakers. Several of the largest property owners of the city were present, all expressed themselves as favoring the proposition and asserted that they were ready to lend their financial support to the project.

But one regrettable thing to this proposition presented itself, and that was the statement of Mr. Walters that the Osage Western could not build by way of Centralia and thence south-east into this city. The Commercial Club has been extremely anxious to get a railroad connection with Centralia and the matter was urged upon Mr. Walters last night, but that gentleman stated that it would require the expenditure of more than \$100,000 in addition to the cost of the proposed route to build to Centralia, besides the additional tax that would have to be paid on the longer mileage, and also stated that his engineer had reported that it was not feasible to build into Centralia, although they had spent considerable time and money in trying to make such a connection. The line as it is now proposed will run about four miles south of Centralia.

After the assembly had been thoroughly convinced that Mr. Walters meant business and it had been decided to attempt to raise the bonus, there was a spirited discussion as to when the work of raising the bonus should begin. The railroad committee, through Mr. Amos offered a motion to declare a half holiday this afternoon, close up all business and

raise the money. This met with objection from two sources. Some of the more impetuous wanted to begin right then and there to raise the bonus. Dr. Wimer was one of these and in a short but enthusiastic speech declared himself ready to subscribe to the bonus at once, and said that the time to do anything was while the enthusiasm was at its highest. The other objection came from those who wanted more time, in which to formulate a system of raising the bonus whereby the burden would fall as evenly upon all concerned as possible. This idea finally prevailed, and the railroad committee was instructed to prepare a table showing the relative worth of the property owners of the city, and determine the proportionate amount each should subscribe to the bonus, and have this table at the meeting at the Auditorium Tuesday morning.

It is planned to make Tuesday a day of celebration, for it is believed that this will mean the beginning of an era of growth and prosperity, never before anticipated in Vinita. It was freely predicted by conservative property owners at the meeting last night that the building of the road into Vinita would in many cases double and perhaps triple the value of real estate in Vinita, so that of the bonus is no longer looked upon as a donation, but as an investment that will in all probability yield a two or three fold profit.

Another feature of the meeting last night that augurs well for the success of the bonus proposition, was the presence of men of every walk of life. There were laborers, farmers, doctors, lawyers, bankers, real estate men, all bent upon the same purpose, and with such a spirit of town building in evidence, that drove away the fears and doubts of the most pessimistic.

Look out for that meeting Tuesday. Remember the hour is 10 a. m.

COMET IS VISIBLE AGAIN TONIGHT

Kansas City Scientists Declare It is Not Halley's Comet That Was Seen Last Night.

A comet, believed by many Vinitans to be the Halley comet, which was expected to be visible in this latitude about March 20, was plainly visible in the southwestern sky for an hour, late yesterday. Many vary as to the exact time it was first visible, but to say that it was first seen about 6:30 and sank in the southwestern horizon about 7:30, is definite enough for anyone but a scientist. The comet will again be visible about 6:30 this evening.

The following from the Kansas City Times throws some light upon the comet and tends to establish this as De Rake's comet:

Only the petty scruples of a few un-

imaginative scientists kept at least a portion of Kansas City last night from discovering Halley's comet. But isn't that just like a scientist?

It all started when some one noticed a bright, nebulous growth over in the southwest corner of the sky. Then some one else noticed it, and then some one else, until by 6 o'clock probably all those who weren't blinded by brick walls or bituminous smoke, had sighted it, charted it, and guessed extravagantly upon its family connections. Most of the amateur astronomers were inclined to baptize it as Mr. Halley's protege, which is due here about March 20.

Some Said a Tail--Some Said Didn't. Some were of the opinion that the heavenly hobo had a tail which stood straight up like that of an angry cat, while others maintained that it was merely a wandering star without friends or attendants. All agreed, though, on two things--that it was just beneath the evening star and that it retired about 6:30 o'clock.

Home astronomical talent being called in, declare that it probably was Venus, which has been decorating the southwest portion of the horizon until about 4:30 o'clock every night. Porter Graves, astronomical instructor at the Central high school, and P. Connor, weather observer, both voted it Venus. They also, however, remarked on the fact that De Rake, a Dutch planet shark of Johannesburg, South Africa, had sighted a perfectly new comet rapidly approaching the dark continent last Sunday.

Professor Phillips Guessing Wrong. But the common people still stuck to Halley's comet. Prof. Ephraim Miller of the university of Kansas, announced over the telephone that there wasn't a chance in the world for the Halley comet to run ahead of schedule. It seems to have been clipping off its little 1,878 miles a minute ever since 248 B. C., so it really wouldn't be nice to suspect it of spurring after so much steady service. So, in substance, said Professor Miller.

Then Washburn Scored.

It was Prof. H. I. Woods of Washburn university though, who identified the wanderer. According to Professor Woods, it is De Rake's comet, appearing for the first time since that gentleman discovered it. It was going toward the sun then, but it is past it now, and beating it at a rate that'd make a racing motor appear to stand still. Only the nebula can be seen with the naked eye, but telescope observations show it to have a tail about the length of the handle of the big dipper. It will be visible tonight a little farther east of its position of last night. It also will be a little more brilliant. With a telescope it may be seen today. At 10 o'clock this morning, Professor Miller said, it will be a little east of the sun.

GENERAL STORE LOSS ESTIMATED AT \$50,000

By Associated Press. Brainer, Mo., Jan. 21.--A fire here today destroyed two buildings and three stores, causing a loss estimated at fifty thousand dollars. The fire started in the general store, owned by James Cornett, who in trying to extinguish the flames narrowly escaped.

JAPANESE DECLINE TO MAKE ROADS NEUTRAL.

By Associated Press. Tokio, Jan. 21.--The reply of the Japanese government to the United States' proposal for the neutralization of the Manchurian railroads, was handed to the American ambassador today. It is a polite declination.

PLAN FOR MERGER OF COAL AND METAL MINERS

By Associated Press. Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 21.--A definite plan for the projected merger of the organized metal and coal miners, of the United States and Canada, will be laid before the convention of the United Mine Workers, of North America, now in session here, by a committee representing the coal miners here assembled and the visiting committee sent by the metal miners of the Western Federation of Miners.

Thomas L. Lewis was re-elected president, over William Green, of Ohio, his only opponent, by 23,597 majority. Frank J. Hayes, of Illinois was elected vice president and Edwin Perry was chosen secretary-treasurer.

HEADQUARTERS FOR CITY POLICE FORCE

Office in Auditorium Building Equipped For Use of Police Force--All City Offices Moving.

The city of Vinita is now sporting a real police headquarters--office desk, gas stove, lounging chairs and all.

With the removal of the city offices from the court house to the Auditorium, the little room just to the right of the front entrance was assigned to the police department. A telephone was installed, and the little office equipped for the purpose it is to serve. Now when there is trouble anywhere in the city the police can be found by calling up the headquarters--that is unless they are all out on duty. The limited number on the force does not permit of one man being at the headquarters all of the time.

City Clerk Andy Green is moving into the office, used by the Commercial club, until the room on the east of the hall is vacated by the Fidelity Farm Loan company.

NO DEVELOPMENTS IN SWOPE MYSTERY YET

By Associated Press. Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 21.--John H. Atwood, attorney for the Swope estate, upon his arrival here from Chicago today, announced that there would be no important developments in the Swope mystery before next week. Mr. Atwood declined to state what progress the Chicago chemists had made in the examination.

SANTA FE ABANDONS TRACKS ON ACCOUNT OF FLOODS.

By Associated Press. Topeka, Kans., Jan. 21.--The Santa Fe was compelled to abandon the tracks between Leocompton and Lawrence today. This action is necessary on account of the flooding of the tracks at Lakeview, where there is an ice gorge in the Kansas river. All Santa Fe trains to Kansas City today were detoured over the Union Pacific.

FIRST AVIATION MEET HAS ENDED

Curtiss Defeats Paulhan--One Man Near Death But Peril Was Unknown to Crowd.

Aviation Field, Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 21.--As dusk gathered over the old Dominguez ranch last night four flying machines that had been circling in the air sailed to earth. The aviators walked to their tents, the great crowd filed down the roadway, and the first international aviation meet ever held in America was over.

Few knew that one man had been near death in those last few minutes. Charles K. Hamilton was returning from a fifteen-mile flight toward the ocean. When a mile from the aviation field the crank shaft of his machine snapped. No one in the crowd noticed anything wrong. Hamilton shut off his engine and so leveled and swayed his planes that he was wafted gently down, touching with scarcely a thud. It was a brilliant piece of emergency handling.

Curtiss and Paulhan, rivals of the meet, furnished the excitement for the closing day. Paulhan went up at 3:25 o'clock for an endurance flight. After he had gone two of three laps of the course Curtiss started on a ten-lap speed trial, half a lap or more than three-fourths of a mile behind Paulhan. Instantly it was seen a great race was on--the first real race of the meet.

The two aeroplanes came over the grandstand with the speed of express trains, with Curtiss gaining. He crept swiftly on Paulhan's heels and on the third lap after starting he reached Paulhan, flying above. The Frenchman for a few seconds held his own, then the American forged ahead a length, finally half a lap.

It was no race after that. The American machine was demonstrated as the fastest beyond question. Paulhan went on until he had traveled 64.4 miles and had been in the air nearly an hour and a half. Curtiss came down after a 30-mile trip.

This race gives the whole story of the meet. The Curtiss machines have won all the prizes for speed, quick starts, perfect landings and those events where a light swift machine showed best.

Paulhan has won all the cross-country, passenger-carrying and endurance tests, having a heavier, slower machine and an engine which he trusts absolutely. Paulhan has taken more than \$15,000 in prizes and has broken the world's records for altitude and for cross-country flights alone and with a passenger.

Curtiss has broken no world's records, and probably will take less than \$5,000 in prizes.

Hamilton and Willard have taken second and third prizes in most events.

ST. LOUIS OFFICER FOUND GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER.

By Associated Press. St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 21.--Patrolman James O'Hearn was found guilty of manslaughter in the fourth degree, by a jury today, and fined five hundred dollars, the minimum punishment. O'Hearn, in making an arrest, hit Ralph Collins in the head and Collins died within twenty-four hours.

MILFORD - BERGER SHOE COMPANY

Don't worry about the comet or the weather

Ladies' Spring Oxfords; A Dozen New Styles.

Of medium price.

SHOE STOCK WAS NEVER SO LARGE.